



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Monday - July 29, 2002

- ***In the West***, isolated showers continue across the ***southern Rockies***, but hot, dry weather elsewhere in the region is maintaining the threat of additional wildfire activity, straining drought-reduced irrigation reserves, and adversely affecting dryland agriculture.
- ***On the Plains***, weekend showers provided only localized drought relief from ***Nebraska northward***, leaving pastures and dryland summer crops under varying degrees of heat and moisture stress. Meanwhile, showers are aiding summer crops from ***Kansas southward***.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, recent and ongoing showers are boosting topsoil moisture reserves for reproductive to filling corn and soybeans. Although ***Midwestern*** temperatures (forecast to range from 85 to 90 degrees F today) remain mostly favorable, some fields are still in need of additional moisture.
- ***In the South***, hot, mostly dry weather continues to stress summer crops in the ***southern Atlantic region***, where today's high temperatures are forecast to range from 95 to 100 degrees F. Meanwhile, slightly cooler air and beneficial showers are beginning to overspread areas ***west of the Delta***.

Outlook: Early this week, showers will accompany above-normal temperatures across much of the ***central and eastern U.S.*** By mid-week, a weak cold front will bring drier, cooler air to the ***Mid-Atlantic and New England States***, while a second, stronger cold front will provide below-normal temperatures to the ***northern Rockies and northern Plains***. Farther south, scattered showers will accompany hot weather across the ***central and southern Plains and the Southeast***. Monsoon showers will persist in the ***Southwest***, but the remainder of the ***West*** will be mostly dry. The 6-10 day outlook for August 3-7 calls for above-normal temperatures in the ***Rockies, central Plains, and Corn Belt***. Below-normal temperatures are expected along the ***West Coast*** and in the ***New England States***. Above-normal rainfall is forecast across the ***central High Plains, northern Plains, and upper Midwest***, while below-normal precipitation is expected in much of the ***Southwest***.

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